

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091863

13/12

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NEA-14 COME-00 EB-11 OMB-01 /097 R

66610

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R 032305Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091863

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (DRAFTER OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, EFIN, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

REF: STATE 86718

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONTINUATION OF PERSONAL EFFORTS BY AMBASSADOR ON THIS SUBJECT, IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT USEFUL SOLUTION PRIOR TO DPC MINISTERIAL, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. IF NO SOLUTION IS AT HAND BY TIME OF MINISTERIAL, WE EXPECT MINISTERS WOULD REMAND PROBLEM TO PERMREPS. ON OTHER HAND, OF A USEFUL SOLUTION TO PROBLEM CAN BE ACHIEVED BY TIME OF MINISTERIAL, IT WOULD BE A HELPFUL SIGN OF NATO UNITY AND COHESION AND WOULD FURNISH A GOOD BASE FOR THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 091863

MINISTERIAL MEETING, ALONG WITH THE EFFECTIVE WORK ON

FORCE GOALS.

2. AN ADEQUATE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM IS REQUIRED TO MAKE NATO FORCES WORK TOGETHER BETTER, PARTICULARLY IN CENTRAL REGION. SUPPORT OF FORWARD STORAGE SITES, COLLOCATED OPERATING BASES, AIRCRAFT SHELTERS, COMMAND AND CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, RECEPTION FACILITIES, AIRFIELD RESTORATION AND NADGE IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER SACEUR PRIORITY PROJECTS, ALL OF WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO AN EFFECTIVE INITIAL DEFENSE, WILL REQUIRE A PROGRAM OF ABOUT 600 MILLION IAU.

3. AGGREGATE ALLIED SHARE OF INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT WOULD BE 480 MILLION IAU FOR PROGRAM AT 600 MILLION IAU, ASSUMING US SHARE CONTINUES AT EFFECTIVE RATE OF TWENTY PER CENT. THIS CONVERTS TO 1.62 BILLION US DOLLARS AT CURRENT CONVERSION RATE OF 3.38 DOLLARS PER IAU. IF ALLIES, NOT INCLUDING FRANCE, CONTINUE DEFENSE SPENDING AT 1973 RATE, TOTAL FIVE YEAR ALLIED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES WOULD BE DOLS. 166 BILLION. HENCE ALLIED SHARE WOULD BE ABOUT ONE PER CENT OF TOTAL DEFENSE BUDGET FOR THE SAME PERIOD. WE RECOGNIZE THAT INDIVIDUAL SHARES VARY CONSIDERABLY, BUT COMPARISON OF COST TO ALLIES FOR THIS COLLECTIVE NATO PROGRAM AND THEIR TOTAL DEFENSE SPENDING SHOULD SERVE TO ESTABLISH FACT THAT NATO INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AT 600 MILLION IAU IS VERY SMALL PART OF DEFENSE EFFORT.

4. IN OUR VIEW, DPC SHOULD CONSIDER NATO FORCE GOALS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AS PART OF SINGLE PROBLEM, BECAUSE OF THEIR OBVIOUS RELATIONSHIP. AD-70 INPUT REPORT ON INFRASTRUCTURE (AC/281-REPORT(74)4) LAYS OUT THE RELATIONSHIP: THE PRIORITY A PROJECTS SUBMITTED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM ARE CLASSIFIED AS MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE DIRECTLY TOUCHING ON THE OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO FORCES.

5. IN CONSIDERING FORCE GOALS AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT, DPC MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER THAT A PORTION OF THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS WHICH COUNTRIES SHOULD DEVOTE TO "REASONABLE CHALLENGE" FORCE GOALS, OVER AND ABOVE PROJECTED COUNTRY PROGRAMS, BE DEVOTED TO INFRASTRUCTURE INSTEAD. NATO NATIONS ALREADY MAKE AVAILABLE MOST OF THE INGREDIENTS FOR A SUBSTANTIAL CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE, BUT NATO DEFENSE SUFFERS FROM A LACK OF COOPERATION, COORDINATION AND FLEXIBILITY IN UTILIZATION OF FORCES. AN ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM WOULD MAKE AN ESSENTIAL AND MAJOR

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PAGE 03 STATE 091863

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CONTRIBUTION IN INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO FORCES AND ADDING FLEXIBILITY IN THEIR USE.

6. FIGURE OF 600 MILLION IAU FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD COULD BE PREFERABLY SINGLE NATO PROGRAM WITHOUT EUROGROUP ADD-ON OR COMBINATION OF THE TWO. ALTERNATIVELY, AS WITH 1970-74 PROGRAM, LOWER FIGURE COULD BE ACCEPTED IF IT IS AGREED THAT THE FUNDS NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT A FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM, BUT RATHER ONE WHICH WOULD BE REVIEWED AFTER THE TOTAL AMOUNT ALLOCATED HAD BEEN PROGRAMMED, OR, ALTERNATIVELY AFTER A SPECIFIC PERIOD, I.E. FOUR YEARS. IN THIS EVENT, TOTAL INITIAL FIGURE SHOULD APPROXIMATE 480 MILLION IAU.

7. FYI. AGREEMENT ON TARGET FIGURE IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. HOWEVER IF NOT ACHIEVABLE AMBASSADOR SHOULD SEEK A FIGURE AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO TARGET. FIGURE OF TWENTY PER CENT FOR EFFECTIVE US SHARE REMAINS ESSENTIAL FOR CONGRESSIONAL PURPOSES. END FYI.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE091863
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OSD/ISA:MR TYLER/EUR/RPM:MR REHFELD:HR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740109-0969, D740108-0203
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740574/aaaacows.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 86718
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
TAGS: MCAP, EFIN, NATO, DPC
To: NATO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005